

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MILITARY ORIENTATION TRAINING - UAE DEFENSE
FORCE

REFERENCE: ABU DHABI 2000

1. UAE MILITARY ORIENTATION TOUR VISITED U.S. FROM
26 APRIL TO 2 JUNE 1977. HIGHPOINTS OF THE TOUR AS IDENTI-
FIED IN "AFTER ACTION REPORT" PREPARED BY U.S. MILITARY
ESCORT OFFICER WERE:

--VISIT TO U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY AT WEST POINT
--OBSERVATION OF AIRBORNE TRAINING AT FORT BENNING, GEORGIA
--VISIT TO BELL HELICOPTER IN TEXAS
--VISIT TO COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COLLEGE
--VISIT TO FMC IN SAN FRANCISCO

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PAGE 02 STATE 161002

--VISITS TO FORT BRAGG, FORT JACKSON AND FORT BLISS

2. DURING COURSE OF THEIR U.S. TOUR, UAE MILITARY OFFICERS
APPEARED TO BE IMPRESSED WITH THE FOLLOWING MILITARY EQUIP-
MENT: VULCAN ANTIAIRCRAFT GUN, HAWK SURFACE TO AIR MISSILE,
CHAPPARRAL SURFACE TO AIR MISSILE, FMC DESERT-ADAPTED JEEP
(XR 311), ARMORED INFANTRY FIGHTING VEHICLE (DEVELOPMENTAL

APC), AND LASER TRAINING DEVICES USED IN TANK GUNNERY

TRAINING.

3. UAE MILITARY OFFICERS APPEARED TO FIND U.S. TRAINING METHODS AND FACILITIES OF UNIFORM HIGH QUALITY THROUGHOUT THEIR TOUR, BUT APPEARED TO BE PARTICULARLY ANXIOUS TO SEND UAE TRAINEES TO U.S. COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COLLEGE WHICH THEY PRONOUNCED THE FINEST TRAINING FACILITY OF ITS KIND IN THE WORLD.

4. UAE MILITARY OFFICERS WERE BRIEFED BY DEPARTMENT OFFICERS ON US-UAE RELATIONS, INCLUDING LOWER GULF ARMS SALES POLICY. COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION DURING THE SESSION FOCUSED ON APPROPRIATENESS OF LOWER GULF ARMS SALES POLICY. LATER, DEPARTMENT OFFICERS LEARNED THAT IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THEIR US MILITARY ESCORT, UAE OFFICERS HAD REACTED NEGATIVELY TO RESTRICTIVE ASPECTS OF US ARMS SALE POLICY STATING THAT IF US WAS UNWILLING TO SELL UAEG ARMS, ARMS COULD BE PURCHASED FROM OTHER SUPPLIERS.

5. UAE MILITARY ORIENTATION TOUR TO THE US APPEARED TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN BASIC GOAL OF GIVING UAE OFFICERS A VERY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION OF US MILITARY TRAINING METHODS AND INSTALLATIONS, ALTHOUGH SOME OF THE WEAPONRY VIEWED BY THE TOUR MEMBERS DURING THEIR U.S. TRIP WOULD POSE POLICY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 STATE 161002

PROBLEMS WERE REQUESTS FOR ITS PURCHASE FORTHCOMING FROM THE EMIRATES. DCM SHOULD STRESS US READINESS TO COOPERATE WITH THE UAEDF IN THE AREA OF TRAINING AND BE PREPARED TO EXPLAIN LOWER GULF ARMS POLICY IN THE CONTEXT OF OVERALL US POLICY TOWARD THE REGION AND IN LIGHT OF ADMINISTRATION'S RECENTLY ENUNCIATED POLICY OF ENCOURAGING RESTRAINT IN ARMS TRANSFER WORLD WIDE. VANCE

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